Unit 1 Revision Checklist

1.1 Systems Architecture	©	\odot
The purpose of the CPU		
CPU components and their function:		
The Control Unit (CU)		
The Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU)		
Cache		
How a CPU carries out instructions using the; Fetch- Decode-Execute Cycle stored in memory		
Von Neumann architecture:		
 Memory Address Register (MAR) 		
Memory Data Register (MDR)		
 Program Counter (PC) 		
Accumulator		
How common characteristics of CPU's affect their		
performance:		
clock speed		
cache size		
number of cores		
Embedded systems:		
the purpose of embedded systems		
examples of embedded systems		

1.2 Memory	©	(3)
The difference between RAM and ROM		
The purpose of ROM in a computer system		
The purpose of RAM in a computer system		
The need for virtual memory		
Flash memory		

1.3 Storage	69	\otimes
The three tiers of storage:		
Primary storage		
Secondary storage		
Tertiary storage		
The need for secondary storage		
Data capacity and calculation of data capacity		
requirements		
Common types of storage		
Optical		
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Magnetic	
Solid State	
Suitable storage devices and storage media for a given	
application, the advantages and disadvantages of these,	
using characteristics:	
 Capacity 	
Speed	
 Portability 	
 Durability 	
Reliability	
Cost	

1.4 Wired and Wireless Networks	©	\odot
Types of network:		
Local Area Network (LAN)		
Wide Area Network (WAN)		
Factors that affect the performance of networks		
The different roles of computers in a client-server and		
peer-to-peer network		
The hardware needed to connect stand-alone computers		
into a Local Area Network:		
Wireless access point (WAP)		
Routers/ switches		
Network Interface Controller/Card (NIC)		
Transmission media		
The internet as a worldwide collection of computer		
networks:		
Domain Name Server (DNS)		
Hosting		
The Cloud		
The concept of virtual networks		

1.5 Network topologies, protocols and layers	©	<u>::</u>
Star and mesh network topologies		
WiFi:		
Frequency and channels		
Encryption		
Ethernet		
The uses of IP addressing, MAC addressing and		
protocols including:		
Transmission Control Protocol/ Internet Protocol		
TCP/IP		
Hyper Text Transfer Protocol (HTTP)		
Hyper Text Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS)		
FTP (File Transfer Protocol)		
Post Office Protocol (POP)		

Internet Message Access Protocol (IMAP)	
Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP)	
The concept of layers	
Packet switching	

1.6 System Security	©	
Forms of attack		
Threats posed to networks:		
Malware		
Phishing		
People as the 'weak point' in secure systems		
(social engineering)		
Brute force attacks		
Denial of service attacks		
Data interception and theft		
The concept of SQL injection		
Poor network policy		
Identifying and proventing vulnerabilities		
Identifying and preventing vulnerabilities		
Penetration testing		
Network forensics		
Network policies		
Anti-malware software		
Firewalls		
User access levels		
Passwords		
Encryption		

1.7 Systems Software	©	\odot
The purpose and functionality of systems software		
Operating systems:		
User interface		
 Memory management/ multitasking 		
 Peripheral management and drivers 		
 User management 		
File management		
Utility system software:		
Encryption software		
Defragmentation		
Data compression		
 The role and methods of backup: 		
o Full		
 Incremental 		

1.8 Ethical, Legal, Cultural and environmental concerns	69	\odot
How to investigate and discuss Computer Science		
technologies while considering: • Ethical issues		
Legal issues		
Cultural issues		
Environmental issues		
Privacy issues		
How key stakeholders are affected by technologies		
Environmental impact of Computer Science		
Cultural implications of Computer Science		
Open Source vs Proprietary Software		
Legislation relevant to Computer Science:		
The Data Protection Act 1998		
Computer Misuse Act 1990		
 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 		
Creative Commons Licensing		
Freedom of Information Act 2000		

Unit 2 Revision Checklist

2.1 Algorithms	©	\odot
Computational thinking		
abstraction		
decomposition		
algorithmic thinking		
Standard searching algorithms:		
binary search		
linear search		
Standard sorting algorithms:		
bubble sort		
merge sort		
insertion sort		
How to produce algorithms using:		
 pseudocode 		
using flow diagrams		
Interpret, correct or complete algorithms		

2.2 Programming Techniques	(E)	$\stackrel{\textstyle ext{(2)}}{\textstyle ext{(2)}}$
The use of:))
variables		
constants		
operators		
inputs		
outputs		
assignments		
The use of three basic programming constructs used to control the flow of a program:		
sequence		
selection		
iteration (count and condition controlled loops)		
The use of basic string manipulation		
The use of basic file handling operation:		
• open		
• read		
write		
• close		
The use of records to store data		
The use of SQL to search for data		
The use of arrays (or equivalent) when solving problems, including:	_	
one dimensional arrays		
two dimensional arrays		

How to use sub programs (functions and procedures) to produce structured code	
The use of data types:	
integer	
• real	
 Boolean 	
 character and string 	
casting	
The common arithmetic operators	
The common Boolean operators	

2.3 Producing robust programs	8	\odot
Defensive design considerations:		
input sanitisation/ validation		
 planning for contingencies 		
anticipating misuse		
authentication		
Maintainability:		
• comments		
indentation		
The purpose of testing		
Types of testing:		
iterative		
final/ terminal		
How to identify syntax and logic errors		
Selecting and using suitable test data		

2.4 Computational Logic	(3)	\odot
Why data is represented in computer systems in binary form		
Simple logic diagrams using the operations AND, OR and NOT		
Truth tables		
Combining Boolean operators using AND, OR and NOT to two levels		
Applying logical operators in appropriate truth tables to solve problems		
Applying computing-related mathematics:		
• +		
• -		
• /		
• *		
Exponentiation (^)		
• MOD		
• DIV		

2.5 Translators and facilities of languages	©	\odot
Characteristics and purpose of different levels of		
programming language, including low level languages		
The purpose of translators		
The characteristics of an assembler, a compiler and an		
interpreter		
Common tools and facilities available in an integrated		
development environment (IDE):		
editors		
error diagnostics		
run-time environment		
 translators 		

2.6 Data representation	©	\odot
Units:		
bit, nibble, byte, kilobyte, megabyte, gigabyte, terabyte, petabyte		
how data needs to be converted into a binary format to be processed by a computer.		
Numbers:		
 how to convert positive denary whole numbers (0-255) into 8 bit binary numbers and vice versa how to add two 8 bit binary integers and explain 		
overflow errors which may occur		
binary shifts		
how to convert positive denary whole numbers (0- 255) into 2 digit hexadecimal numbers and vice versa		
how to convert from binary to hexadecimal equivalents and vice versa		
check digits		
Characters:		
the use of binary code to represent characters the term 'character set'		
 the relationship between the number of bits per character in a character set and the number of characters which can be represented (for example ASCII, extended ASCII and Unicode) 		
Images:		
how and image is represented as a series of pixels represented in binary		
metadata included in the file		
the effect of colour depth and resolution on the size of an image file.		

Sound:	
 how sound can be sampled and stored in digital form 	
 how sampling intervals and other factors affect the 	
size of a sound file and the quality of its playback:	
 sample size 	
o bit rate	
 sampling frequency 	
Compression:	
 need for compression 	
 types of compression 	
o lossy	
lossless	